Approved for Release: 2023/03/01 C00869858

VIA: AIR POUCH (SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH)

DISPATCH NO. [redacted]

~~SECRET~~ SECURITY INFORMATION CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief, NEA

DATE: 23 November 1953

FROM : Chief [redacted]

SUBJECT: GENERAL—

SPECIFIC— Traces on Karl Heinz EICHMANN

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)
(2)(A) Privacy ☐
(2)(B) Methods/Sources ☒
(2)(G) Foreign Relations ☐

AMF: DIE [redacted]

The following traces on Karl Heinz EICHMANN, Nazi war criminal, were obtained for us from Saida ORTNER, wife of German ex-SS officer Felix ORTNER /see [redacted] / by [redacted] early in November 1953. Although none are more recent than 1951, they are being forwarded to Headquarters for possible background information.

During the winter of 1945-1946, EICHMANN was a prisoner in a U.S. Pow camp at Rimini, Italy, together with former Gestapo chief in Rome, KAPPLER, and the former Gestapo chief in Milan, an ex-Naval officer (n.u.) That winter, both EICHMANN and the ex-Naval officer were transferred to another U.S. Pow camp and escaped, separately, after learning of the life sentence given KAPPLER by the Italians.

Their escape route led from Germany through Innsbruck to Rome. In Rome they obtained Syrian laissez-passers, money, and tickets to Syria from the Syrian Legation. The ex-Naval officer arrived in Syria in 1948 and became chief of Colonel HINAWI's /SHISHAKLI's predecessor / Body-guard. EICHMANN arrived in Syria between 1947-and 1948.

After his arrival, EICHMANN disassociated himself with the German military advisors who had been brought to Syria to help fight the Israelis and described himself as "Political Advisor to the Syrian Government." He was converted to Islam in 1948. In 1951, he came to Cairo and contacted the ex-Grand Mufti, Hajj Amin al-HUSAYNI in an effort to obtain financial help. This he did not receive. EICHMANN was forced to leave Egypt in 1951 as he had no permit to stay. Mme. ORTNER was unable to state the present whereabouts of EICHMANN.

[redacted]

Approved: [redacted]
Chief of Mission

Dist: 3 - Hdqtrs: Files

FORM NO. 1-FEB 1948 51-[redacted]

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